GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:319
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2017
Field Trials of GM Crops
Datta Shri Sankar Prasad

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the norms/guidelines regulating the field trials of Genetically Modified (GM) crops;
(b) the present status of field trials of 13 GM food crops including mustard and brinjal;
(c) the details of crops subjected to GM field trials and the organizations/States involved therein;
(d) whether certain States/agencies/experts have expressed their reservations over introduction and field trials of GM crops; and
(e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto including the steps taken to address the objections/concerns?

Answer

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a) All Genetically Engineered (GE) products in India are regulated under the Rules for Manufacture, Use, Export, Import and Storage of Hazardous Microorganisms/Genetically Engineered Organisms or cells (Rules 1989), made under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. The field trials of GE crops are regulated under Guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for confined field trials of regulated, GE plants, 2008.

(b) At present, two field trials are being conducted on Genetically Modified (GM) Maize at Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), Ludhiana. Other GM food Crops including mustard and brinjal are not under field trials at present.

(c) The details of crops subjected to GM field trials and the organizations/state involved therein are enclosed at Annexure I.

(d)& (e) This Ministry is not aware about reservations over field trials of GM Crops. However, No Objection Certificate (NOC) from State Government is required to conduct confined field trials.
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